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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

NEA FOR FRONT OFFICE
NEA/SA/EX FOR AUSTIN-FERGUSON; DEPT FOR DS/IP/ITA; DEPT FOR
DS/IP/NEA; DRL FOR A/S CRANER
NSC FOR ABRAMS/DANIN
USAID FOR DCHA, DCHA/FFP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PTER](#) [PBTS](#) [PHUM](#) [KWBG](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [IS](#)

SUBJECT: WB/G SITREP: MAY 5, 2005 (1500 HOURS LOCAL) -- TWO
PALESTINIAN TEENS SHOT AND KILLED BY IDF IN SEPARATION
BARRIER PROTESTS SOUTHEAST OF MODI'IN

This is a joint ConGen Jerusalem/Embassy Tel Aviv cable.

[1](#)1. (SBU) Summary. IDF troops shot and killed two unarmed Palestinian teens near Bayt Liqya village (off Route 443) on May 4, during stone-throwing clashes and protests against the separation barrier. In Gaza, two mortar shells exploded May 4, one east of an IDF post near Khan Yunis and the other at Ganey Tal, but no injuries resulted. According to Israeli media, police have reportedly mapped all settlement houses that will be evacuated during the Gaza pullout, and have collected intelligence about the inhabitants' proclivities towards violent protest. End summary.

West Bank

[1](#)2. (SBU) ATTACKS/SECURITY:

-- Deaths: IDF troops shot and killed two unarmed Palestinian teens near Bayt Liqya village (off Route 443) on May 4, according to Israeli and Palestinian media. The youths were part of a large group of Palestinian protesters against the separation barrier who began to throw rocks at the IDF soldiers.

-- Injuries: Several Palestinians were lightly injured by bullets or suffered from tear gas inhalation during the above protests, according to Palestinian newspapers.

-- Arrests: The IDF arrested a Palestinian youth carrying a handgun near Hebron on May 4, according to Palestinian sources.

-- Arrests: Israeli Border Police arrested nine anti-barrier protesters in Bil'in (near Ramallah) on May 4 who chained themselves to olive trees in an attempt to prevent clearing for the barrier, according to Israeli and Palestinian newspapers.

-- Incursions: The IDF entered Attil village (near Tulkarm) and searched several houses on May 4, but left without making arrests, according to Palestinian sources.

[1](#)3. (SBU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

-- PA President Abbas called Hamas political bureau chief Khalid Mish'al to try to work out PA-Hamas disputes resulting from the PA's arrest of three Hamas activists in Gaza for preparing a Qassam launch, and confiscation of their weapons.

Gaza Strip

[1](#)4. (SBU) ATTACKS:

-- Deaths: Nil.

-- Injuries: Nil.

-- Mortars/Rockets: Two mortar shells exploded May 4, one east of an IDF post near Khan Yunis and the other at Ganey Tal, but no injuries.

-- Shootings: According to the IDF, Palestinians shot at IDF soldiers May 4 south of an IDF post at Rafah, but no injuries occurred.

-- Explosions: The IDF reported that an explosive device was discovered on May 4 northeast of Sufa crossing, but no injuries occurred.

[1](#)5. (SBU) INCURSIONS/DEMOLITIONS: Nil.

16. (SBU) BORDER CROSSINGS:

-- Route Four (Salahadeen Road), the main north-south traffic artery, was open May 5, with a major detour at Netzarim Junction.

-- Erez Crossing was closed May 4 for Palestinian laborers, but open to internationals.

-- The Erez Industrial Zone was closed May 4.

-- Sufa Crossing was closed for Palestinian laborers May 5, but was open for the import of aggregates used in construction.

-- Karni Terminal was closed May 5, according to UNRWA, due to a terror threat reported by the IDF.

-- Rafah Terminal was open for arrivals and departures May 5.

-- Tel al-Sultan checkpoint was closed May 5. Toufah checkpoint was open for residents of al-Mowassi, except males aged 16-30.

17. (SBU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

-- According to Israeli media, police have reportedly mapped all the houses of the settlements that will be evacuated during Gaza disengagement and collected intellig